

REMARKS

In response to the Notice of Allowance mailed November 6, 2007, Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments under 37 CFR § 1.312. This amendment is being filed prior to payment of the issue fee. The amendment cancels claims 156-163, 165-167, 169-174 and 176-179 and does not change the scope of allowed claims 132-139, 141-143, 145-150 and 152-155. In addition, the Applicants submit that the claims presented in this amendment reflect the changes made via Examiner's Amendment as provided in the Notice of Allowability dated August 16, 2007. In particular, claims 132 and 145 have been amended by Examiner's amendment as follows:

The term, "buyer" has been replaced by "manufacturing entity."

Immediately following the last limitation of claims 132 and 145, the following has been added:

"and wherein the contract manufacturer agrees to abide by said guidelines, comprising:
keeping said pricing information confidential for a period of time;
restricting purchases to said part numbers provided with the authorization;
providing copies of said purchase orders between the contract manufacturer and the component supplier to the manufacturing entity for tracking and reconciliation purposes; and
complying with a request to provide said production bill of materials that factors in revisions to the purchase prices of components that reflect the purchase price available to the manufacturing entity."

CONCLUSION

If there are any charges with respect to this response or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account 09-0458.

Respectfully submitted,

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